

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 IOE-00 SS-15 L-03 CAB-09

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

FAA-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 OIC-04 PM-07

DOTE-00 EA-11 PRS-01 USIE-00 RSR-01 /133 W

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O 201127Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9471

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6539

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN ICAO LE IS

SUBJ: ISRAEL MEA INCIDENT

REF: STATE 164681

1. SUMMARY: MFA ECON DIRECTOR HARAN GAVE EMBOFF FOLLOWING OUT-LINE OF GOI POSITION IN AUG. 20 ICAO COUNCIL MEETING WITH URGENT REQUEST FOR STONG US SUPPORT TO HAVE SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF DRAFT LEBANESE RESOLUTION (STATE 164552) CHANGED TO PLACE MATTER IN "COMMITTEE FOR UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE" AND THEREBY AVOID HAVING MATTER REFERRED TO AUG. 28 MEETING WHICH MIGHT RESULT IN SANCTIONS BEING VOTED AGAINST ISRAEL. END SUMMARY.

2. MFA ECON DIRECTOR HARAN TOLD EMBOFF AUG. 20 THAT GOI DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WORTHWHILE FINGT TO CHANGE LANGUAGE OF FIRST AND THIRD OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS OF LEBANESE DRAFT. ISRAEL HAS ALREADY BEEN CONDEMNED BEFORE IN ICAO AND IT CAN LIVE WITH THAT AGAIN. GOI ALSO DOUBTS THAT DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE WOULD DISCUSS ONLY INCIDENTS OF ONE STATE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO OTHER ACTS PERPETRATED AGAINST CIVIL AVIATION.

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3. HOWEVER HARAN SIAD GOI REGARDS LANGUAGE IN SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH AS MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM BECAUSE IT POSES POSSIBILITY OF ICAO ASSEMBLY IMPOSING SANCTIONS AS WERE DONE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA AND PORTUGAL. HARAN REQUESTED EMBASSY CONVEY TO DEPARTMENT AS URGENT MATTER GOI HOPE FOR US SUPPORT IN GOI EFFORT TO CHANGE LANGUAGE OF SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH TO PROPOSE THAT THE COUNCIL SEND MATTER TO THE "COMMITTEE ON UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE" WHICH REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL. HARAN FEELS REFERRING MATTER TO ICAO ASSEMBLY WOULD TURN AUG.28 SESSION INTO ANOTHER UNSC TYPE MEETING WITH SIMILAR RES. BUT THIS TIME CALLING FOR SANCTIONS. GOI POLICY IS TO AVOID ANY ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS AS THIS WOULD POSE OBVIOUSLY SERIOUS PRECEDENT IN ARAB-ISRAELI CONTEXT.

4. COMMENT: WE THINK ISRAELIS ARE PROBABLY RECONCILED TO US POSITION ALONG LINES OF POSITION WE TOOK IN UNSC, BUT WILL HOPE WE CAN OBTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION AS OUTLINED ABOVE. WHILE EMBASSY CANNOT KNOW TACTICAL SITUATION USDEL FACES, WE BELIEVE SUPPORT FMR ISRAELI PROPOSED CHANGES IN PARA. TWO WOULD BE WHOLLY CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS US EFFORTS TO FOCUS ATTENTION OF WORLD TO MENACE OF AIR PIRACY REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SOURCE IS GOVERNMENT LIKE ISRAEL, ORGANIZATION LIKE BLACK SEPTEMBER AND PFLP, OR INDIVIDUAL LIKE LIBYAN MOHAMMED AHMED AL TOUNI.
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30 JUN 2005

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